The Award Cash Management $ervice (ACM$)

What is ACM$?

The National Science Foundation's (NSF) Award Cash Management $ervice (ACM$) is a new approach to award payments and post-award financial processes. ACM$ will transition financial processing of award payments from the current "pooling" method to a "grant-by-grant" method, requiring awardee institutions to submit award-level payment amounts each time funds are requested. As a result, ACM$ will eliminate the need for institutions to submit quarterly Federal Financial Reports (FFR) on Research.gov, as well as cash requests through FastLane. Awardee institutions will access ACM$ through Research.gov starting in 2013. NSF will continue to communicate with awardee institutions as this new service is made available.

Why Transition to ACM$?

- NSF is placing an increased focus on transparency and accountability in the stewardship of Federal funds
- Congress, the Office of Management and Budget, and other stakeholders are requiring more up-to-date information on how tax dollars are being spent
- NSF must comply with new standardized financial reporting requirements

How Does ACM$ Work and What are the Benefits?

ACM$ will allow awardee institutions to submit cash requests and adjustments to open and closed awards, as well as access award-level information on payments and award balances. Other benefits include:

- Better and more timely access to financial data, funds status monitoring, and expenditure reports
- Reduced need for manual accounting processes including reconciliations and adjustments
- More transparent data, leading to faster identification of awardees that need technical assistance
- Elimination of the quarterly FFR

What is Research.gov?

Research.gov is the National Science Foundation's (NSF) grants management system that provides easy access to research-related information and grants management services in one location. Research.gov is the modernization of FastLane, providing the next generation of grants management capabilities for the research community.

For more information about Research.gov, please contact the National Science Foundation at **feedback@research.gov**.